

Sports and Recreation

Goal line stand saves day

Rugby rookies win squeaker over Western



A York rugby player (thin stripes) is grabbed by a Western player on the way to Yeoman's 9-6 victory.

Bryon Johnson photos

sent ten eager freshmen into the lineup to defend the Yeomen's OUAA title.

Played under windy conditions the game featured strong running by both teams as accurate kicking became more and more difficult.

The Yeomen pressed the Mustangs early in the first half, but were unable to score, "they were waiting too long to pass the ball," said Dinning, "the Western squad is more experienced and stayed right on top of our guys."

In return the Mustangs forced York to come up with some fine defensive play as they narrowly escaped being scored upon. At the half, neither team had succeeded in crossing the others goal line.

After an intermission pep talk York's passing improved noticeably, as veteran Wally Urbanski led more frequent charges up the field to set up Yeomen's first score.

A three point penalty kick by Bruce Mathieson put York ahead early in the second half and fired up the teams offense.

Yeomen extended their lead to nine points as Bruce Ostrum scored a four point try, which was then converted by Mathieson. Not wanting to sit on a slim nine point margin however, the Yeomen continued to press the attack, with about ten minutes left in the game.

On one of their plays in the Mustangs end York was caught up fields as Western broke for the York goal line. A desperate flying tackle prevented the score, only to be given up on the next few plays. A conversion made the score 9-6 and still the Mustangs rallied to force York into a goal line stand, which they were able to withstand.

Rattled by the close score the rookie Yeomen were thankful to escape with a victory.

Coaching Dinning commented that he was looking to his vets to help steady the new members of the team.

Particularly impressive in the season opener were newcomers Paul Douros and Ian Brennan.

Stressing the fundamentals, the Yeomen hope to hold their own this season until the young team gains more experience.

Dinning feels that the team's good speed along with its size will make up for the inexperience, a situation that is aided by the versatility of many of the players.

The Yeomen will get their first real test of the early season as they host Guelph here on Saturday at 2:00.

Guelph, along with Queens and Waterloo are expected to give York a good challenge for the division championship this year.

Lancers stick York footballers lose 48-0

By WALTER RIGOBON

York's football hopes sank even lower last Saturday as the Yeomen suffered a 48-0 drubbing at the hands of the powerful University of Windsor Lancers.

Powerful is a fitting adjective for the Lancers who are currently ranked second in the nation behind the University of Calgary Dinosaurs. Their performance on Saturday seems to bear this out.

Led by their American quarterback Ed Skowneski, the Lancers displayed a potent aerial attack, racking up a total of 272 yards. Skowneski hit on 12 of 17 passes, the longest being a 60 yard touchdown strike to the fleet Ron Gardner.

At the half, Windsor carried a 38-0 lead into the locker room on the strength of td's scored by Skowneski, Gardner, Piniciuc and two by Larry Sandre.

Dave Pegg missed on two conversion attempts but hit for two field goals, one a 44 yarder, the other a 19 yard chip shot.

York quarterback's Mike Foster and Rob Pyper were able to find the mark on only three of 18 passing attempts. Finding it difficult to set up in the pocket due to a furious Windsor front four, Yeomen gained only 65 yards total offense.

York coach Dick Aldridge was disappointed in the team's performance. "This was our worst

game of the season. There was something lacking out there today," he said.

The numbers game continued to haunt the Yeomen as only 28 players suited up for action. "I'm starting to worry about their pride," Aldridge said, "what we lack is the real big man, the 6'3" 230 lb. player."

One of the few bright spots in the Yeomen's game was 220 pound Paul Sheridan. "Paul came up with a good two-way game on the line," said Aldridge. "He gives me 100 per cent all week long and has just a great attitude."

Yeomen were able to hold the Windsor Lancers to an eight yard touchdown and another 19 yard field goal in the second half, however their offense was not able to penetrate the Windsor defence at all. Aldridge explained that, "they blitzed a lot out there today and seemed to shake Foster's confidence."

After losing to three of the toughest teams in the country, Yeomen hope to regain some respect against Guelph, Toronto and McMaster during the remainder of the season.

York's gridiron warriors will need to come up with a good effort this Saturday at Guelph if they hope to turn the season around.

By IAN WASSERMAN

York's championship rugby team opened the season last Saturday, with a 9-6 victory over the Western Mustangs.

With only five players returning from last year, coach Mike Dinning

Gymnasts to join nationals, go to world games in 1978

By ANDREW GUIDO

Three of York's top gymnasts were selected to the number one National team at the Canadian Gymnastics Federation selection meet held in Edmonton last Saturday.

Steve Maclean, David Steeper, and Marc Epprecht were picked for the team after placing among the 14 top qualifiers and will represent Canada at the 1978 World games in France.

Accompanied by coach Tom Zivic, the Yeomen gave strong performances despite the early season start.

Zivic, this year's Canadian National coach at the Olympics, said "The competitors are not yet performing at full potential, it being the beginning of the season."

David Steeper echoing Tom Zivic's remarks, said "Most of the gymnasts were not at their peak condition, but it still turned out to be a good meet."

Veteran gymnast Steve Maclean fulfilled his hopes of gaining a place on the team, coming up with a solid performance. Freshman Marc Epprecht who entered the meet with high hopes, suffered a few tough breaks that put him back in the standings. His performance however was still good enough to win him a spot among the top 14 qualifiers.

The trio hopes to practice with the rest of the National Team One in

Cuba this Christmas if enough funds are available.

Missing out on this year's qualifications were Yeomen Bob Carisse and Masaaki Naosaki, both of whom were on last year's National team. The two competitors were sidelined due to injuries sustained during practice.

Naosaki will stay on in his other role as assistant coach for the Varsity Team.

Bompa sees boom

By TIM UKSULAINEN

Ecstatic is the only way to describe the feeling on the Track and Field team after hearing they would soon have their long awaited new facilities. The Ontario Municipal Board last week approved the construction of a 2.5 million dollar indoor outdoor Track and Field complex at York to be completed by 1978.

In previous years the athletes at York have had to persevere with off campus facilities, which meant daily travel for many of them to find proper training areas.

The outlook then, is one of optimism as the team begins their season this Saturday at McMaster.

The team has grown steadily with good representation in both the men's and women's running events.

Assistant coach Dave Smith feels the most notable improvement appears to be on the women's team. Bolstered by newcomers Pam Medland, a 400 meter runner, who was ranked 8th in Canada, and middle-distance runner Brenda

Reid from Western, the team promises to show well in future meets. With last year's woman athlete of the year Rita McMinn, who is recovering from an operation, and newcomer Evelyn Brenhouse, a top ranked high jumper, the nucleus is there.

However, Smith feels the team is still weak in the field events and lacks depth due to a shortage of athletes.

Obviously delighted, head coach Tudor Bompa pointed out, that "once we have the facilities I anticipate a boom in this sport."

"Ideally I would like to see York University become the leader in promoting and expanding Track and Field by initiating a program that would cover all age levels from children right on up to the graduate level. Hopefully the athletes of York would be the first to benefit from such a program."

The future of the track and field team at York looks bright as the new facilities will draw top prospects from all over the province.

Sports briefs

... York's soccer Yeomen came away with a win and a tie in back to back games last weekend, hosting both the Guelph Gryphons and the Laurentian Voyageurs, Yeomen showed their new improved team has good potential as they tied Guelph 3-3 and romped over Laurentian 6-0... In water polo action at the McMaster Early Bird tournament York was defeated by the host team, perennial champions in OUAA water polo competition. Losing 19-2 in their first match the Yeomen went on to lose to Windsor 14-6... scoring for York were rookie Niel Harvey and team captain John Thomson...



York' quarterback is mauled by Windsor linemen as the pecky but painless team loses again. York will play at Guelph on Saturday.

EXCALIBUR STAFF
MEETING AT 2 P.M.